Abstract of the Disclosure

Reliable Leader Election in Storage Area Network

A method and system for election of a cluster leader in a storage area network is provided. Each node in a grouping of storage area network nodes communicates with each of the nodes on a periodic basis to determine if any of the nodes have failed (42). In the event of a cluster fault, each node may request a position of cluster leader. A pruning protocol (60) is invoked to ensure efficient convergence of a single cluster leader candidate to favor a majority grouping leader candidate to become the new cluster leader. In the event the leader candidate from the majority grouping has failed to become the new cluster leader, a minority grouping leader candidate can become the cluster leader. Following the pruning protocol, a voting protocol (100) is invoked followed by lock of the quorum disk (138) by the elected cluster leader candidate.